

Gaza through the Port of Ashod and other already established routes. The blockade was set in place to prevent weapons from being smuggled into Gaza. Although I am deeply saddened by the loss of human life that occurred during the interception of the flotilla, I do feel that the Israeli soldiers had every right to defend their lives against a hostile group who attacked them with clubs and knives.

The United States must stand by Israel and its right to self defense.

JOB CREATION

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 10, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss a very important matter—job creation.

As I have previously mentioned, we have seen a lot of progress this year. Our economy has created over 500,000 new jobs in 2010 alone. The newest jobs numbers indicate that over 419,000 jobs were created last month. As a country we are getting stronger and stronger.

While these are great statistics, we still have a long way to go. Only 41,000 of these jobs were created in the private sector. Many of the remaining jobs are temporary census positions. While temporary work is better than no work, our economy and my constituents need and demand permanent job creation.

Some of this can certainly be government jobs, but our economy thrives on job creation and development from the private sector. From the mom and pop shop in Brooklyn to the company that hires by the thousands—each contribute to the economy, to communities, and to families.

Congress needs to continue to work together to enact policies that create and encourage job creation. I urge my colleagues both in the House and the Senate to come together on this important goal—jobs.

IN CELEBRATION OF NEW BETHEL
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH'S
85TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 10, 2010

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church on the occasion of its 85th Anniversary. As a Member of Congress it is both my honor and privilege to recognize and congratulate Reverend Keyon Payton and the congregation for reaching this most impressive milestone.

New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church was founded on June 21, 1925 as an institution rooted in spiritual fellowship and service to the Pontiac community. From its inception, with 27 founding families and under the leadership of Reverend J.W. Conyers, New Bethel found its first home at 175 Branch Street, and became a beacon on a hill shining down upon the Pontiac community as a symbol of faith and fellowship. The passion of New Bethel's lead-

ers has forever been a core strength of the Church. According to New Bethel history, Reverend William Bell sold his own car and took the bus to deliver his sermons every week, so that the Church could repair and expand their aging facilities. This selfless act is one example of the deep devotion of New Bethel's congregation and leadership to the Church's mission. New Bethel's community-minded focus, first fully realized under the leadership of Reverend Amos Johnson, drove the Church to become a "Family Center," a pillar of charity and service in the Pontiac community.

Under New Bethel's current leader, Pastor Keyon Payton, the Church has continued to prosper and expand upon its goals to join the Pontiac community in spiritual fellowship and community service. Through execution of Pastor Payton's bold vision, New Bethel reached out to several of its neighboring congregations in collaboration to create Camp Hosanna, a day camp for youth that provides them with a safe and secure environment to explore all realms of education. Pastor Payton has also been the driving force behind many new community-based programs which New Bethel hopes to implement including an emergency shelter for women and children in need, a community development corporation to promote an economically vibrant and financially literate Pontiac community, and a youth development center to guide and nurture Pontiac's future leaders.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church's 85th Anniversary of spiritual guidance and service to the Pontiac community. New Bethel's congregation and leadership have left a profound impact on the Pontiac community and have enriched the lives of many. I wish Pastor Payton, the New Bethel leadership and the entire congregation, many more years of vibrant spiritual fellowship and growth.

RETIREMENT FOR N. GARY
ROOKE, FORMER CEO, GREATER
SPRINGFIELD CREDIT UNION,
SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 10, 2010

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the retirement of Gary Rooke from the Greater Springfield Credit Union. After 19 years of committed, dutiful and effective employment, I would like to acknowledge the significant contribution made to the lives of the credit union members and employees and would like to place this tribute into the official record.

Mr. N. Gary Rooke joined the Greater Springfield Credit Union on November 13, 1990, as manager/CEO and has significantly increased the health of the credit union since his arrival. Since his start in 1990, many services have been added to the Credit Union such as debit cards, Roth IRAs, prime checking, online banking, bill pay, youth accounts, overdraft protection, vacation/holiday/computer/energy loans, audio response, member wire transfers, credit cards and development of the East Longmeadow branch.

Mr. Rooke is also extremely involved in his community, serving 20 years at the Mountain

View Baptist Church, in which he has participated in many different ways. Gary served as the commander of Awana Youth Program as well as a Sunday school teacher, treasurer, church building committee, trustee and deacon. He has also been an active volunteer at the Westfield Boys and Girls club. Mr. Rooke also serves on many different committees which benefit the community.

On Thursday, July 17, Gary's colleagues, friends and family will honor his legacy and thank him for his successful work on behalf of others and join him in celebrating his retirement from the Greater Springfield Credit Union.

Gary Rooke has been a tremendous CEO to the Greater Springfield Credit Union in Springfield. I am proud to congratulate him on his retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 10, 2010

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, June 8, 2010 was primary Election Day in my state of California, which necessitated my remaining in my congressional district on Tuesday, June 8, 2010, through Wednesday, June 9, 2010. Consequently, I was unable to return in time for rollcall votes 337 through 346.

I ask the RECORD to reflect that had I been present I would have voted as follows:

1. On rollcall No. 337, I would have voted "aye" (June 8) (H.R. 1061, Hoh Indian Tribe Safe Homelands Act).

2. On rollcall No. 338, I would have voted "aye" (June 8) (H. Res. 518, Honoring the life of Jacques-Yves Cousteau, explorer, researcher, and pioneer in the field of marine conservation).

3. On rollcall No. 339, I would have voted "no" (June 9) (Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule for H.R. 5072—FHA Reform Act of 2010 (H. Res. 1424)).

4. On rollcall No. 340, I would have voted "no" (June 9) (On Agreeing to the Resolution Providing for the consideration of the bill H.R. 5072, the FHA Reform Act).

5. On rollcall No. 341, I would have voted "no" (June 9) (H. Res. 989—Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States should adopt national policies and pursue international agreements to prevent ocean acidification, to study the impacts of ocean acidification, and to address the effects of ocean acidification on marine ecosystems and coastal economies).

6. On rollcall No. 342, I would have voted "aye" (June 9) (H. Res. 1178—Directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to compile the cost estimates prepared by the Congressional Budget Office which are included in reports filed by committees of the House on approved legislation and post such estimates on the official public Internet site of the Office of the Clerk).

7. On rollcall No. 343, I would have voted "aye" (June 9) (On the Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 4173—Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2009 which instructs the House Conferees to end the culture of bailouts embedded in the bill).

8. On rollcall No. 344, I would have voted "aye" (June 9) (H. Res. 1330—Recognizing June 8, 2010, as World Ocean Day).